

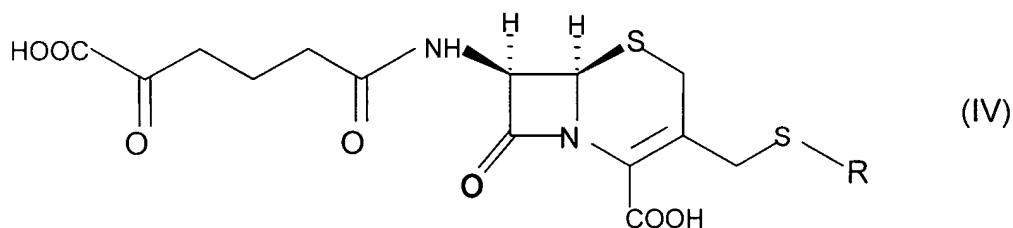
Amendment to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the prior application.

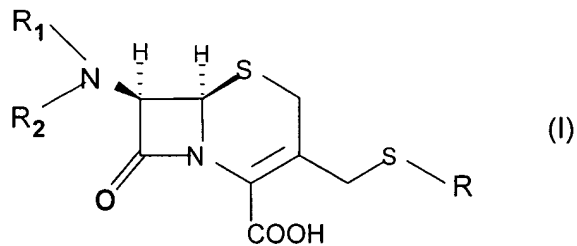
Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 - 62 (Cancelled)

Claim 63 (new): A process for preparing cephalosporanic acid derivatives, comprising the step of:
enzymatically converting a compound of formula IV



to form a compound of formula I



wherein R is a heterocyclic group comprising at least one nitrogen atom and R₁ and R₂ are both hydrogen atoms or one of them is a hydrogen atom and the other is an acyl donor.

Claim 64 (new): The process as claimed in claim 63, wherein a compound of formula IV is enzymatically converted to form a compound of formula I using Glutaryl-7-ACA acylase.

Claim 65 (new): The process as claimed in claim 63, wherein the enzymation takes place at a temperature of approximately 20°C and at a pH of between 6.5 and 8.0.

Claim 66 (new): The process as claimed in claim 63, wherein the enzyme is immobilised using a suitable cross-linker agent in a suitable solid support.

Claim 67 (new): The process as claimed in claim 66, wherein the enzyme is in the form of crystals of a size suitable for use as a biocatalyst.

Claim 68 (new): The process as claimed in claim 63, wherein enzymation is carried out while maintaining the enzyme in dispersion in an aqueous substrate solution.

Claim 69 (new): The process as claimed in claim 63, wherein the enzymatic process is carried out in a column.

Claim 70 (new): The process as claimed in claim 63 including the step of recovering the enzyme for reuse.